



Kelly Powell, President 616.866.1567
Paul Eckert, Vice President 989.732.3550
Tricia Davis, Secretary/Treasurer 231.878.2229

May 19, 2011

To: Senate Ag Committee

From: **United Deer Farmers of Michigan**

Subject: **SB 27 – Return authority Of Cervids from DNR to MDA**

As a Board Member and Legislative Chairman for the United Deer Farmers of Michigan (UDFoM) I would thank the committee for taking up SB 27 on behalf of the industry to return the regulatory authority to Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA). The original legislation that was passed in 2000 placed the regulation of the Cervidae with the MDA. Public Act 190, was sponsored by then Representative Mike Green.

Our organization supports the return to MDA as the sole administrative agency for several reasons. Currently there are two agencies (MDA & MDNR) with conflicting missions.

The two departments have similar responsibilities with communication issues.

The MDNR has responsibilities for the facility registration and fence inspections, while the MDA has the animal health and certification programs which are critically important to the Michigan producers.

By combining these responsibilities into one agency the MDA can stream line the process and can reduce cost of operations saving the State of Michigan considerable monies.

In today's economic environment it makes financial sense to administrate the program through one agency.

Over the past 7 years the history of MDNR as the lead agency has cost the industry and tax payers' of Michigan approximately \$6.8 Million dollars as per the HFA report dated Oct 5, 2010, see tab #1 for excerpt from the report.

The Dual Agency Problem arose when Governor Granholm created Executive Order 2004-003 transferring the regulatory authority to MDNR with MDA to follow along on health issues.

An Audit of the industry was performed and a letter from the Governor Granholm to House Speaker Rick Johnson stated that the regulatory control would be returned back to the MDA after the audit, see tab #2. This promise was not been full filled.

Another conflict exist with the MDNR regulating the cervidae Industry. The MDNR cannot legally use funds from state license fees paid by hunters for livestock operations.

Refer to the letter dated June 4, 2004, see tab #3, the Michigan Deer and Elk Association's Executive Director wrote to House Speaker Rick Johnson. The letters documents to Speaker Johnson that no federal game funds can be used to do an audit on the Privately Owned Cervids as a result of EO 2004-003.

It goes on to explain the rules of the program and also documents that the Michigan DNR has been in violation of those guidelines.

An additional letter was sent to MDNR Director K.L. Cool from the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service two key statements in the letter.

- 1) Michigan law, Act 451 of 1994, 324, Section 40501 states in part, ***"funds accruing to this state from license fees paid by hunters shall not be used for any purposes other than game and fish activities under administration of the department"***.

- 2) And another statement in text is, " ***a concern we have is, under the Michigan law, the "Privately Owned Cervidae Producers Marketing Act, PA 190 of 2000, 287.954 Section 4 (1) and (2) classifies such cervidae facilities as a form of livestock agriculture. Such livestock agriculture is clearly not "game and fish activities".***

If these funds are misappropriated the penalties are to be paid back at a rate of \$2-3 for every \$1 misappropriated.

Clearly the MDNR should not have regulatory authority over cervidae livestock operations as evident by the two statements from the Fish and Wildlife Services.

In the past 11 years the industries has had fee increases for regulatory oversight. There has been a decrease in services with an increase in fees. Prior to the bill passes in 2000 the cervidae registration fee was \$45 for a 3 year term.

The 2000 law raised the fees to \$150 for 3 year registration. In 2004 the fees were increased to \$750.

Again we are asked to pay more yet from our point of view we have received less service.

Examples of this are clear:

- The state regulator agents writes letter stating that we no longer have Tb indemnity rights if we encounter Tb in our livestock herds.
- Additionally we have been asked to pay \$25 per animal for CWD testing.
- Now DNR is requesting for the 2012 budget to increase fees again to support them.

The problem is their inefficiencies and that they charge the industry with overruns of their mismanagement, as documented in the House Fiscal Agency, dated Oct 5, 2010.

The privately owned cervidae livestock industry are an important economic factor for Michigan's and our countries Agricultural Industry.

Enclosed are three economic impact studies done in the USA.

The first study is of Michigan's Cervidae livestock industry which documents the industry doubling from 1998 to 2008. The report states, "Hunting preserves provides a large economic benefit to the Michigan economy by bringing in over \$10.2 million annually for out hunters. The deer and elk industries are important contributors to Michigan's economy, with investments of \$215 million in their operations."

Another is nationally by Texas A&M and the third was performed for the State of Pennsylvania. Find attached the cover pages and summary with references to the complete reports. See tab #4

This clearly illustrates that the industry is a viable livestock commodity across the United States.

In addition to the food value of the industry the United Deer Farmers of Michigan are actively promoting our industry and the State of Michigan at no cost to the State.

Also included are the United Deer Farmers brochure and the latest ad to promote Michigan Hunting Ranches on a prestigious TV show broadcast on The Pursuit Channel. This ad cost the industry \$11,000 to produce and promote, it will show for 26 weeks starting this summer. The link is huntmichigan.com. Which will link back to our industry web pages for producers in Michigan. See tab #5.

During the recent discussions with other agriculture industries including the Hunting Swine bills, it has been proposed to use independent certified inspectors to conduct fence inspections. These inspectors would pay a fee to the State to be trained and certified by the State to conduct fence inspections for the registered facilities.

The MDNR claims that the fence inspections cost them on an average of \$1500 to perform for each facility which is inspected every three years.

The responsibility for paying for the Inspections would be shifted over to the producers. The producers would contact one of the State Certified Inspector to inspect the fences with the cost being paid by the producers.

This would be a substantial cost savings to the state and an effective way of reducing the burden on the state agency. The MDA can easily handle the paper work load and they do have a compliance office that settles issues as they arise. MDA also have state veterinarians that are across the state.

The mission Statements of the MDNR and the MDA are completely different.

One focuses on Natural Resources and the other on Agriculture.

Michigan Department of Natural Resources Mission Statement:

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations.

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Mission Statement:

"To protect, promote and preserve the food, agricultural, environmental and economic interests of the people of Michigan."

In Summary the DNR has zero oversight and accountability on spending and expects the industry to pay without input to where monies are being spent.

The state cannot afford to lose another \$6.8 M in the next 7 years.

The DNR's own laws states that Fish and Wildlife funds cannot be used to regulate livestock, if found to be non compliant the penalties are great.

The Federal Fish and Wildlife Services are very clear that the Private Cervid Marketing Act is a "livestock agriculture".

We have provided an example of saving the agency and state funds by allowing the fence inspections be done with state certified inspectors.

Last I have shown you the mission statements of both agencies The cervid (deer) industry is defined as livestock, meat (food source), animal health, agri-tourism, private property rights, the right to farm, and our right to pass our farms on to our children and grand children so that our hard work and investments in Michigan can be experienced for the future generations.

Based on the facts... , I would urge the Committee to support the return to the Dept of Agriculture.

Thank You!



Alex Draper
Chair Policy and Legislation
810-275-2143



Kelly Powell, President 616.866.1567
Paul Eckert, Vice President 989.732.3550
Tricia Kanouse, Secretary/Treasurer 231.342.4291

March 3, 2011

Dear Legislator

Subject: Rebuttal of House Fiscal report on:
"Game Animals as Livestock in Michigan"

I have attached the original report from the DNR illustrating the exorbitant fees that DNR is trying to justify against the Cervid Industry. There appears to be several discrepancies and misrepresentations in this report. I am hoping that we can work together to clear up these concerns. We do understand that there are budget issues. As an Industry, we have ideas to present to you that will help resolve staffing and budget shortages.

The following Table 1 is an excerpt from the House Fiscal Agency report on *Game Animals as Livestock in Michigan*, Oct. 5, 2010, I have included a copy for your review. This report has been distributed by the DNR as their analysis and basis for raising the fees to an unjustified level.

Michigan's last Governor moved the administration of the Cervid Industry from the MDA to DNR, even though they had no experience in monitoring agricultural operations. Below you will see illustrated the lack of ability by the DNR to efficiently and effectively manage the Cervid Industry.

An increase in fees will not make up for the inability to efficiently regulate an agricultural industry.

Until the Cervid Industry starts reporting to the proper agency, we will continue to have budget issues. The following list points out some of the mismanagement and misappropriation of funds by the DNR. Please review the items I have listed for the explanations of specific line items:

- a) Executive Order 2004-3 to do a complete audit on Privately Owned Cervid Operations (POC), instead of waiting until the facilities came up for regular inspections, cost the state \$562,736. The information gathered by the audit was never utilized, making this a total waste of monies spent.
- b) CWD related line is not a POC expenditure. MDA has covered, and is responsible for, all CWD related expenditures. Notice that over 7 years, the DNR has misrepresented \$2.78 million. Also, the DNR has received funding since 2002 from the USDA, for being next to a state with CWD. When CWD was detected in Michigan, the DNR received additional funding.
- c) 2008-9 was the year they found one animal in a POC facility with CWD. DNR did major testing of wild whitetails, banned baiting and feeding, and did 24-7 surveillance on all POC facilities over Labor Day weekend, with no limit on hours worked. Both MDA and DNR spent monies they did not have and misappropriated Michigan General Funds in excess of \$1.5 million.
- d) 2007 thru 2009 we had two facilities test positive for TB in Northeast Michigan where TB is prevalent in the wild. The DNR's lack of ability to manage the wild herd is actually a detriment to our Industry.

In the 1 case of sporadic CWD, where one animal had tested positive and there were no traces in or out from the herd, the DNR and MDA literally shut the industry down for 2 years. MDA increased in expenditure because of the increased testing and head pickups. In 2009, MDA staff streamlined the pickup dates and places and has cut the overall cost in half. This illustrates that MDA is much better suited than the DNR to safely and efficiently regulate our industry.

f) In 2002 when the Granholm Administration came into office, there were 750 Cervid facilities. As last noted in the report, there are only 449 as of Aug 2010. This also coincides with the DNR control. Hunting licenses, which the DNR is in charge of, are on the decline. And since the DNR has been given control of Cervid Farms, they are now also on the decline. Once again, the DNR's management system does not promote growth and funding.

Table 1
State Agency Costs of Cervid Regulatory Program
FY 2002-03 through FY 2008-09

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	Four-Year Average	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	Three-Year Average	Seven-Year Totals
Department of Natural Resources										
a) Privately-owned cervid regulatory	\$0	\$562,736	\$115,223	\$158,748	\$209,177	\$178,287	\$256,490	\$169,164	\$201,314	\$1,440,648
b) CWD-related 1	167,950	232,790	250,416	227,620	219,694	161,119	584,267	1,161,816	635,734	\$2,785,978
Total DNR	\$167,950	\$795,526	\$365,639	\$386,368	\$428,871	\$339,406	\$840,757	\$1,330,980	\$837,048	\$4,226,626
Michigan Department of Agriculture										
Salaries, Wages, and Benefits	\$78,347	\$68,245	\$38,770	\$164,542	\$87,476	\$166,736	\$244,289	\$443,862	\$284,962	\$1,204,791
Reimbursement of DNR Costs 2							\$215,000		71,667	215,000
USDA Wildlife Services 3						67,497			22,499	67,497
Supplies and Materials	38,311	20,277	8,800	21,133	22,130	5,181	8,950	26,861	13,664	129,513
Travel	42,950	5,367	20,162	27,004	23,871	21,629	24,104	23,801	23,178	165,017
MSU Laboratory Fees 4	14,539	22,243	21,877	93,842	38,125	69,662	66,485	183,815	106,654	472,463
Total MDA	\$174,147	\$116,132	\$89,609	\$306,521	\$171,602	\$330,705	\$558,828	\$678,339	\$522,624	\$2,254,281
Total on-going DNR/MDA regulatory costs	\$342,097	\$911,658	\$455,248	\$692,889	\$600,473	\$670,111	\$1,399,585	\$2,009,319	\$1,359,672	\$6,480,907
Indemnification Payments 5	\$12,200	\$6,700	\$3,800			\$432,803	\$8,668			\$464,171
Cervidae Act Regulatory Fee Revenue 6	\$50,795	\$8,648	\$39,148	\$38,400	\$34,248	\$85,329	\$120,620	\$113,971	\$106,640	\$456,911

Table Footnotes:

1. FY 2007-08 DNR CWD costs of \$584,267 are net of \$215,000 reimbursement from MDA, shown as an MDA cost below.

2. In FY 2007-08 the MDA reimbursed the DNR for staff efforts related to CWD investigation, monitoring, and quarantine.

3. USDA costs related to depopulation of infected or exposed cervids.

4. Represent the costs of TB tests, CWD tests, and sample extraction and disposal. Tests are conducted at the Diagnostic Laboratory on the MSU campus.

5. Indemnification payments are made from state General Fund revenue appropriated in state Agriculture Budgets.

6. From FY 2000-01 through FY 2002-03 regulatory fees were collected and retained by the MDA; starting in FY 2003-04 regulatory fees were collected and retained by the DNR.

Although not shown in this analysis, MDA collected fee revenue of \$38,240 in FY 2000-01, and \$48,365 in FY 2001-02.

The six year average of fee revenue, from the start of the regulatory program in FY 2000-01 to FY 2005-06 is \$37,266.

The following Table 1 is a excerpt from the House Fiscal Agency report on Game Animals as Livestock in Michigan

In conclusion, it is very obvious that the DNR is unable to properly regulate the Cervid Industry. To have an agency in charge of an Industry this size, spend the kind of funds that they themselves are admitting to, is outrageous. I know that if anyone other than the DNR admitted to spending these kinds of funds to accomplish as little as they have, someone would be replaced. We need to focus on the real issue: budget concerns will have to be addressed, but having an agency that is qualified and capable in control that can appropriately manage this industry is the first step. I am looking forward to scheduling a time with you that we can sit down and discuss our proposal.

Alex Draper
Chair Policy and Legislative Committee



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

JOHN D. CHERRY, JR.
U.S. SENATOR

June 3, 2004

The Honorable Rick Johnson
Speaker
Michigan House of Representatives
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7514

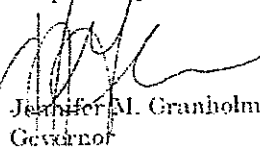
Dear Speaker Johnson:

Executive Order No. 2004-03 transferred the regulation of privately-owned deer and elk captive cervidae livestock facilities and operations from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in an effort to prevent the threat of Chronic Wasting Disease in Michigan.

The order will enable DNR to begin preparations for an audit of Michigan's captive deer and elk industry, which was a key recommendation of the Governor's Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Task Force. The DNR has the resources to act quickly and decisively to protect our native deer and elk from this horrible disease, which represents a threat to Michigan's economy.

After completion of the audit and review of its findings, if CWD is determined not to be present in Michigan captive cervidae facilities, it is my intention to return regulatory functions to the Department of Agriculture.

Respectfully,


Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor

MICHIGAN DEER AND ELK FARMERS ASSOCIATION

3181 ABERDEEN COURT
PORT HURON, MICHIGAN 48060

OFFICE (810) 984-5114
FAX (810) 985-5119

June 4, 2004

Honorable Rick Johnson
Speaker of the House of Representatives
State Capitol
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Re: Governor's Executive Order 2004-3

Dear Representative Johnson:

There are no wildlife restoration federal funds (federal fish and game funds) available for an "audit" of the deer and elk industry or enforcement of privately owned deer and elk regulations. The federal fish and game funds can only be used for fish and game activities under administration of the MDNR, not for livestock deer and elk activities. The \$800,000 plus estimated will all have to come from state sources. The problem is there has been numerous public statements and press releases, some from Governor Granholm's office and MUCC television shows and magazine, stating federal and state fish and game funds will be used for the audit and enforcement. Also, Director Humphries did testify to the House Agriculture Committee that 60% of the funds would come from state resources and that 40% would come from federal resources.

We understand the funds to support the activities concerning the Governor's Executive Order are \$500,000 previously earmarked for TB eradication in the wild deer and \$300,000 from revenues obtained from hunter license fees.

The attached letter dated May 13, 2004 from USFWS Director to MDNR Director K.L. Cool provides guidance to the State of Michigan on the use of federal fish and game funds for activities concerning livestock deer and elk. Such funds may not be used for an inspection of privately owned cervidae facilities or for an audit of those facilities.

Violation of the guidance provided in the letter will result in severe sanctions from the federal government to the State of Michigan. Unfortunately, in such an event, the State of Michigan will not be in a positive negotiating position for settlement due to the recent violations, sanctions, and settlement concerning the same federal funds. The violations cited were for misuse of funds for law enforcement and other violations. The sanction was a request from USFWS to the State of Michigan to return ALL federal fish and game funds obtained by the state of Michigan under the current year's program, which amounted to \$33 million. Until that amount was to be paid or a settlement reached, there would be no additional federal fish and game funds. A settlement of 1.3 million was reached. It is unlikely such a generous settlement will be offered again so soon after resolution of this recent situation.

It is important that Federal funds are not used directly, indirectly, or used for reimbursement at a future date in violation of the federal statute. An annual state audit available to the public on the use of those federal funds may be appropriate to preclude another federal investigation and to address public concerns about the proper use of those funds.

Sincerely,



DANIEL P. MARSH
Executive Director

cc. Rep. Tom Casperson
Rep. Dale Sheltrown
Sen. Jim Barcia
Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom
Sen. Ken Sikkema

Encls.
DPM:lm



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Washington, D.C. 20240



In Reply Refer To:
FWS/AMBS/016998

Mr. K. L. Cool
Director
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 30028
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7528

MAY 13 2004

Dear Mr. Cool:

Thank you for your letter of April 15, 2004, requesting written guidance concerning the appropriate use of Michigan State Hunting and Fishing license revenue for private cervidae activities and the prevention of chronic wasting disease (CWD). As you indicated in your letter, the Michigan Governor's Executive Order 2004-3 makes the Michigan Department of Natural Resources responsible for the inspection of private captive cervidae facilities and the audit of these facilities.

We also wish to ensure the proper use and protection of Michigan game and fish license revenues and that such use is consistent with the assent legislation. We note Michigan's assent legislation as contained in the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (Act 451 of 1994) 324 Section 40501 states in part: "funds accruing to this state from license fees paid by hunters shall not be used for any purpose other than game and fish activities under administration of the department."

Michigan's assent legislation is consistent with Federal Title 50 CFR 80.3 Assent legislation, which reads in part: "including a prohibition against the diversion of license fees paid by hunters and sport fisherman to purposes other than administration of the fish and wildlife agency."

A concern that we have is, under Michigan law, the "Privately Owned Cervidae Producers Marketing Act, Act 190 of 2000, 287.954 Section 4 (1) and (2) classifies such cervidae facilities as a form of livestock agriculture. Such livestock agriculture is clearly not "game and fish activities."

We recognize that the information and concerns stated above are just a few pieces of the information required to make a final determination. However, we would suggest the entire cervidae program could not be funded using license revenue entirely. License revenue may be used in those activities that relate to wild cervidae and their protection from among other concerns, chronic wasting disease.

In researching funding of CWD activities with other Regions and States we note the following State wildlife activities related to CWD are eligible for funding under the Wildlife Restoration

TAKE PRIDE
IN AMERICA 

Mr. K. L. Cool

2

(Federal Assistance) Program: surveillance, research, communication and management. This list of eligible activities is not exhaustive and other activities can be considered on a case-by-case basis.

CWD is one of the most significant wildlife diseases in decades, and we understand the potential impacts to State wildlife agencies and their constituents. We are open to assist in any way possible identifying appropriate activities eligible for funding. We are requesting our Region 3 Federal Assistance Office to begin consultations with your office to accomplish this. Such action should allow your Department to determine the extent to which it may pursue activities related to CWD that can be funded with license revenues.

We should point out that Federal legislation has been introduced to provide grants to State wildlife management agencies to assist States in developing and implementing long-term management strategies to address chronic wasting disease in wild cervids. Senate Bill S.1366, introduced June 26, 2003, entitled the "Chronic Wasting Disease Financial Assistance Act of 2003," authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to make grants to State and Tribal governments to manage and control CWD in wild deer/elk herds and "other purposes." The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water held a hearing on April 6, 2004. The companion bill is H.R.2636.

Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention. If you have any specific questions regarding which projects are eligible for Federal Aid funding, please do not hesitate to contact Robert Bryant in the Region 3 Federal Assistance Office at (612) 713-5131.

Sincerely,

Steve Williams

DIRECTOR

cc: 3238-MIB-FWS/AMBS
3038-MIB-FWS/CLA
3238-MIB-FWS/CCU
3238-MIB-FWS/Directorate Reading
Region 3

FWS/R3:RBryant

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Captive Deer and Elk Inventory and Value

The Michigan Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service conducted a survey of Michigan operations raising deer and elk in captivity for the first time in early February 1998. Producers were asked for an inventory and value of their animals by age and type. Deer information was collected for mature bucks, young bucks, breeding does, cull does, buck fawns, and doe fawns. Elk data were collected for breeding bulls, young bulls, breeding cows, bull calves, and heifer calves.

The survey placed the Michigan captive deer inventory at 16,800 head and the number of elk at 2,000 head. Total value for the State's captive deer and elk population was estimated at \$29.4 million. Deer and elk values were \$18.4 million and \$11.0 million, respectively. Inventories, average prices, and total values are shown in the table below.

The survey was designed to account for all captive deer and elk herds in Michigan. Fencing contains these captive deer and elk. Each operation must register with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The registration list was used as the sampling frame. All large operations were included in the survey; random samples of medium and small herds were taken. Survey participation was excellent, reaching nearly 90 percent.

For additional information regarding this year's survey contact the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Animal Industry Division at (517) 373-1077.

Captive Deer and Elk Inventory and Value			
Item	Inventory	Mean Value	Total Value
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Dollars per head</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Deer			
Mature bucks 5 years +	750	3,500	2,625,000
Mature bucks 3-4 years	2,000	2,600	5,200,000
Young bucks 1-2 years	3,600	1,400	5,040,000
Breeding does	5,100	650	3,315,000
Cull does	550	300	165,000
Buck fawns	2,400	500	1,200,000
Doe fawns	2,400	350	840,000
Total Deer	16,800	1,095	18,385,000
Elk			
Breeding bulls	180	8,500	1,530,000
Trophy bulls	120	3,600	432,000
Velvet bulls	390	3,400	1,326,000
Breeding cows	880	7,100	6,248,000
Bull calves	210	2,100	441,000
Heifer calves	220	4,800	1,056,000
Total Elk	2,000	5,520	11,033,000



NR-08-43

News Release

May 23, 2008

2008 Privately Owned Deer and Elk Inventory and Value

The USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Michigan Field Office conducted a survey of Michigan operations raising deer and elk in captivity. The survey was conducted in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and was a follow-up to the first survey of captive deer and elk conducted in 1998.

On February 1, 2008, the Michigan privately owned deer inventory was 26,000 head, and the number of elk was 2,850. This compared with February 1, 1998 inventory figures of 16,800 deer and 2,000 elk. Total value for the State's privately owned deer and elk population was estimated at \$60.4 million, nearly \$31 million above 1998. The total value of the deer herd was \$53.8 million, compared to \$18.4 million in 1998. The elk herd had a total value of \$6.6 million, while the figure in 1998 was \$11 million. Inventories, average values, and total values are shown in the table below. Hunting preserves provide a large economic benefit to the Michigan economy by bringing in over \$10.2 million annually from out of State hunters. The deer and elk industries are important contributors to Michigan's economy, with investments of \$215 million in their operations.

The survey was designed to account for privately owned deer and elk facilities in Michigan with full and ranch registrations. Each operation must register with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and the registration list was used for the survey.

The Michigan Deer and Elk Committee was formed in 2001 following approval of a producer referendum conducted by the Michigan Department of Agriculture pursuant to Public Act 232 of 1965, as amended, the "Michigan Agricultural Commodities Marketing Act." In November 2006, the committee was disbanded and remaining monies from the Deer and Elk Committee's check-off program were utilized to fund the survey.

The results of the 1998 survey are available through the NASS home page at www.nass.usda.gov. Click on Statistics by State and search by State to access the Michigan internet page. In the list of Michigan Publications, choose Other Publications to find the 1998 results.

Privately owned deer and elk inventory and value, February 1, 2008

Item	Inventory	Average value	Total value
	Number	Dollars per head	1,000 dollars
Deer			
Bucks 4 years +	2,700	5,300	14,310
Bucks 2-3 years	4,700	3,200	15,040
Young bucks	6,100	1,600	9,760
Breeding does	4,100	2,100	8,610
Other does	5,100	650	3,315
Doe fawns	3,300	850	2,805
Total	26,000	2,070	53,840
Elk			
Bulls 5 years +	290	5,600	1,624
Bulls 2-4 years	530	2,800	1,484
Breeding cows	1,050	2,500	2,625
Other cows	280	950	266
Bull calves	380	900	342
Heifer calves	320	700	224
Total	2,850	2,300	6,565

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE UNITED STATES CERVID FARMING INDUSTRY

David P. Anderson
Brian J. Frosch
Joe L. Outlaw



**Agricultural and Food Policy Center
The Texas A&M University System**

Agricultural & Food Policy Center
Department of Agricultural Economics
Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
Texas Cooperative Extension
Texas A&M University

APFC Research Report 07-4

August 2007

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Executive Summary

- The cervid farming industry is, perhaps, the fastest growing industry in rural America.
- Over 2,000 industry participants were surveyed, with a response rate of 14 percent.
- This survey, designed to estimate the economic impact of the industry, was performed in late 2006-early 2007.
- The average whitetail deer farm had 32 does composed of 28 males, 20 females, and 4 fawns, and had an average birth rate of 1.31 fawns per doe in 2006.
- According to the survey, respondents reported that the industry is growing at a rate of 10-15 percent annually.
- The cervid farming industry has a direct economic impact of \$100.5 million.
- When incorporating the indirect impact of the industry, the total economic impact of the industry is \$150.5 million. Fuel and other purchases are also included in the indirect impact of the industry.
- The industry is growing at a rate of 10-15 percent annually, and is expected to continue to grow in the future.
- The economic impact of the cervid farming industry is \$100.5 million, and the total economic impact is \$150.5 million.
- If this industry did not exist, those jobs would have to be supported by some other economic activity.
- These results highlight the fact that the cervid farming industry is a growing and important industry in rural America.

The Economic Impact of Pennsylvania's Deer Farms



Prepared for:
**Pennsylvania
Deer Farmers
Association**

February 2007

Prepared by:
Shepstone Management Company

The Key Facts:

Now over 750 deer and elk farms - up 82% since 1990

Pennsylvania No. 2 in commercial deer and elk farms

Pennsylvania No. 3 among the states for deer and elk sold

Deer or elk farms found in 63 of 67 Pennsylvania Counties

Average deer or elk farm protects 68.5 acres of open space

Deer farming is \$103 million industry in Pennsylvania

Deer farming generates 3,500 jobs for Pennsylvanians

Typical deer or elk farm generates \$53,650 sales per year

Deer and elk farm sales are growing by 12% per year

Pennsylvania deer and elk farms invested \$149 million of new capital in the Commonwealth over the last 5 years

Deer and elk industry is now a major agricultural niche larger than sheep and goats, tobacco or Christmas trees

For more information:

Pennsylvania Deer Farmers Association

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